United Nations S/2001/1193

Security Council

Distr.: General
18 December 2001

Original: English

Letter dated 17 December 2001 from the Permanent Representative of New Zealand to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

In accordance with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, I am writing on behalf of my Government to report that New Zealand has joined other States in the exercise of its inherent right of individual and collective self-defence following the terrorist attacks in the United States of America on 11 September 2001.

New Zealand has strongly condemned those responsible for the armed attacks, which caused massive loss of life and destruction. New Zealand therefore fully supports the measures taken by the international community to combat international terrorism and recognizes the critical role of the United Nations in coordinating such efforts. New Zealand fully supports in particular Security Council resolutions 1368 (2001) and 1373 (2001), which reaffirm the inherent right of individual and collective self-defence and call upon all States to work together to bring to justice the perpetrators, organizers and sponsors of the terrorist attacks.

On 21 September the Prime Minister of New Zealand, Rt. Hon. Helen Clark, announced New Zealand's willingness to make a military contribution in response to the calls by the United States of America and the Security Council for effective action to combat terrorism. That offer was supported by the New Zealand Parliament on 3 October. New Zealand's military contribution has been employed in support of military operations directed against Osama bin Laden and the Qaeda terrorist organization, and the Taliban which supported and harboured them. New Zealand's involvement is in no way directed at civilian populations or against Islam.

I should be grateful if you would draw the attention of the members of the Security Council to the present letter and would have it distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Don **MacKay**
Permanent Representative

01-70191 (E) 181201